



Figure 5-3. The National Land Cover Data (NLCD) based on images from 1990-1993 within the Ward Creek Watershed boundary.

Land-cover was mapped using general land cover classes. For example, forest is classified as either, deciduous, evergreen or mixed. Land-cover classification was based on MRLC's Landsat 5 Thematic Mapper (TM) satellite data archive and a host of ancillary sources. For the Lake Tahoe basin images from 1990 to 1993 were used to develop the GIS layer, such as for Ward Creek watershed (Figure 5-3). This is also distributed at the USGS Lake Tahoe Data Clearinghouse web site. The TRG GIS landuse layer for Ward (Figure 5-4) shows considerably more urban area than the NLCD coverage (Figure 5-3).